February 28, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

MLive.com: Snyder gets his nerd: How new Supreme Court justice may help modernize judicial system

"By appointing Macomb County Judge David Viviano to the Michigan Supreme Court, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder cemented the court's conservative status with a 5-2 Republican majority. He also got his 'nerd.'... Snyder, a self-described technology nerd, needs an 'innovator' on the court because he's attempting to modernize the Michigan judicial system."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Macomb County Circuit Judge David Viviano named to Michigan Supreme Court

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Lansing State Journal.

The Detroit News: Snyder taps Macomb judge Viviano for Michigan high court

Detroit Legal News: Snyder names Viviano to Michigan Supreme Court *Full story*

Macomb County Legal News: Viviano appointed to state Supreme Court Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

The Macomb Daily: Macomb's Viviano new Supreme Court justice

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune.

MLive.com: Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Judge David Viviano to Michigan Supreme Court

Full story

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Snyder appoints Macomb Co. judge to Michigan Supreme Court

Full story

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Stateside: Snyder appoints new justice to state Supreme Court

Full story

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Jack Lessenberry Commentary: The governor's Supreme Court appointment

Full story

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Snyder names Macomb judge to Supreme Court Full story

WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: Snyder Announces New MI Supreme Court Position Full story

WILX-TV(10)/Lansing: Snyder Names New Supreme Court Justice *Full story*

WJR 760 AM/Detroit: Paul W. Smith Show: David Viviano interview (7:09 minute podcast)

Podcast

Chief Justice Young: New Justice Viviano is "exceptional" choice for Court

The Detroit News: Appeals court throws out verdict that awarded Detroit teacher \$750,000

"The lawyer for a Detroit teacher who says she was fired after criticizing the district's handling of a sexual assault said Thursday he will fight an appeals court ruling that threw out a \$750,000 verdict in her favor. The Michigan Court of Appeals ordered a new trial Wednesday, but narrowed the case filed by Beverly Garvin, who alleged violations of the Michigan Civil Rights Act and the First Amendment."

Full story

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Appeals court throws out \$750K verdict for teacher Full story

Detroit Free Press: Kilpatrick may be in more trouble for delayed reporting of \$6,000 in cash gifts

"With his verdict imminent, ex-Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick could be facing more restitution troubles for failing to tell his parole officer about another \$6,000-plus in cash gifts, including \$5,000 from his mom and another \$1,000 from ex- Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Conrad Mallett Jr., according to corrections officials."

Full story

The Detroit News: Ingham County judge orders attorney fees paid in toy ape case

"A judge has ordered the Michigan Department of Human Services to pay nearly \$50,000 in attorney fees in a case brought after someone placed a 5-foot toy ape atop the cubicle of a black employee. The Lansing State Journal reports the fees ordered Wednesday by Ingham County Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina are in addition to \$21,000 she earlier ordered in fines."

Full story

Also see:

Lansing State Journal: Ape over desk case: Judge adds \$50,000 to award Full story

The Detroit News: Probe of election scheme involving Speaker Bolger extended 6 months

"An Ingham County grand jury investigating alleged election rigging in a state House district in Kent County has received a six-month extension to continue its probe of a scheme involving Speaker Jase Bolger.... Ingham County Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina signed an order Feb. 7 extending her grand jury investigation through Aug. 22."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Probe of Grand Rapids lawmaker's party switch extended

The Daily Tribune: Probe of Michigan lawmaker's party switch goes on <u>Full story</u>

Note: The article also ran in the Lansing State Journal and the Macomb Daily.

MLive.com: Ingham County judge extends grand jury investigation into Roy Schmidt-Jase Bolger election filing scheme

Full story

The Detroit News: Justices skeptical of voting rights law

"The Supreme Court's conservative justices voiced deep skepticism Wednesday about a section of a landmark civil rights law that has helped millions of Americans exercise their right to vote."

Full story

The Detroit News: Think: Has campaign money killed political accountability?; Most spending in Supreme Court races unreported in 2012

Rich Robinson writes "Michigan had the most expensive state Supreme Court election campaign in the nation in 2012: \$18.6 million. The spending was a record in a Michigan Supreme Court election, and a record for lack of accountability."

Full story

City Pulse/Lansing: Packing heat on campus; Gun rights advocates' drive to loosen restrictions on campus

"... Steve Dulan, an attorney for the Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners, believes a state Court of Appeals ruling in October involving Michigan Open Carry and the Capital Area District Library may open the doors for change at colleges that completely ban guns.... However, CADL has filed for leave to appeal with the state Supreme Court, said Phillip Hofmeister, president of Michigan Open Carry." Full story

Detroit Legal News: Asked and Answered: Neil Rockind on Michigan's Medical Marijuana Laws

"Southfield attorney Neil Rockind is an acknowledged expert on Michigan's medical marijuana laws. After a successful career as a prosecutor, Rockind became a criminal defense lawyer in 1997 and has handled many high profile cases."

Full story

Flint Journal: U.S. Supreme Court hears Flint man's arguments in 1993 murder conviction

"The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments from a Flint man convicted of murder who claims he should be allowed to present evidence proving his innocence even though he missed a one-year filing deadline." <u>Full story</u>

Grand Rapids Legal News: Kent County ends lease on former Rockford District Court building

"... The Kent County Commission on Thursday, Feb. 28, approved the deal, which has the city reimbursing the county \$48,953 for renovations completed after part of the 63rd District Court vacated the building at 105 Maple St. in Rockford to consolidate its district courts into a single location in Grand Rapids Township."

Full story

Hometown Life Newspapers: Boyfriend charged in former Plymouth woman's slaying

"William Michael Dhondt, 28, entered a not-guilty plea to a charge of first-degree murder in the death of his girlfriend in Farmington at his arraignment Tuesday afternoon before 45A Berkley District Court Judge James Wittenberg."

Full story

Also see:

Hometown Life Newspapers: Hehir called 'excellent employee, good person'

Hometown Life Newspapers: Eye on business (second article)

"Judge Nanci Grant was unanimously elected as chairperson of the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission during its February meeting. Grant is the Chief Judge of Oakland County Circuit Court and was elected to the bench in 1996. Grant was elected in 2007 to the Judicial Tenure Commission (JTC) by the state's circuit court judges as their representative."

Full story

Hometown Life Newspapers: AG appeals dismissal of charges against ex-McCotter staffers

"Attorney General Bill Schuette filed an appeal two weeks ago with the Michigan Court of Appeals challenging the dismissal of felony conspiracy charges against two former congressional staff members for their involvement in former Congressman Thaddeus McCotter's petition scandal."

Full story

Washtenaw County Legal News: Judges honored at retirement dinner

"Hon. Thomas S. Eveland, Hon. Paula J. Manderfield and Hon Calvin E. Osterhaven were honored by the Ingham County Bar Foundation (ICBF) at the Judges' Retirement Party on the evening of February 21st. The dinner was held at the Marriott East Lansing."

Full story